

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-20 IO-14 AID-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

L-03 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 DRC-01 /176 W

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R 130841Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1816

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

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USADB

FOR NAC AGENCIES

E O 11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/31/74

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, BG

SUBJ: PROPOSED UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT (BANGLADESH)

SUMMARY: STAFF NOW CONSIDERING REPORT OF RECENT BANK FACT-FINDING MISSION TO BANGLADESH WHICH REVIEWED PROPOSED PROJECT AT ASHUGANJ (60 MILES NORTHEAST OF DACCA). PROPOSAL ENVISAGES UREA FERTILIZER PLANT WITH 450,000 TON/YR CAPACITY, FED BY NATURAL GAS. ESTIMATED COST US\$150 MILLION INCLUDING US\$97 MILLION FOREX, WITH POSSIBILITY JOINT OR PARALLEL FINANCING BY BANK AND IDA. IDA-FINANCED TECHNICAL ADVISORS NOW ASSISTING BENGALIS PRE-QUALIFY 27 ENGINEERING CONTRACTOR FIRMS WHO SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AUG 1973. BANK INTENDS DISPATCH APPRAISAL MISSION LATE MARCH. END SUMMARY.

1. BANK DOC IN18-74, POUCHED ADDRESSEES 8 MARCH.

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2. PROPOSED UREA FERTILIZER PROJECT EXAMINED BY BANK

FACT-FINDING MISSION IN BANGLADESH LAST JAN. MISSION DETERMINED THAT BANGLADESH FERTILIZER CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL CORP (BFCPC), EXECUTING AGENCY HAS TAKEN PRELIMINARY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT PROJECT WITH IDA CONCURRENCE.

3. IDA AND GOVT AGREED FEB 1973 TAKE UP FERTILIZER PROJECT SEPARATELY ON PRIORITY BASIS. PROJECT HAD EARLIER BEEN CONCEIVED AS PART OF PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX, PLANS FOR WHICH WERE SUSPENDED DUE TO SECESSION.

4. ADB WAS APPROACHED BY BOTH WORLD BANK GROUP AND GOVT RE INTEREST IN FINANCING PART OF PROJECT BUT DEFERRED DECISION DUE TO UNCERTAINTY OUTCOME SPECIAL FUNDS MOBILIZATION EFFORT.

5. GIVEN CURRENT ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS SPECIAL FUNDS AVAILABILITIES, BANK PROPOSES SEND APPRAISAL MISSION LATE MARCH. DOCUMENT NOTES THAT IDA-FINANCED TECHNICAL ADVISORS NOW ASSISTING BFCPC SELECT PRE-QUALIFIED ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS FROM AMONG 27 FIRMS WHO RESPONDED TO INVITATIONS AUG 1973 MAKE SUBMISSION.

6. SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT STEPS TAKEN SO FAR BY BFCPC ARE CONSIDERED IN CONFORMITY WITH BANK'S GUIDELINES FOR PROCUREMENT; BANK INTENDS TO ASSURE CONTINUED COMPLIANCE WITH ITS ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EAID, EFIN, BG, ADB-1, IDA
To: STATE
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